Media Release

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Palliative Care Australia National Awards 2017 winners announced at gala dinner

The winners of the Palliative Care Australia (PCA) National Awards for 2017 were announced at last night’s Australian Palliative Care Conference gala dinner in Adelaide.

Five individual and two team awards were presented at the dinner for outstanding innovation, talent and teamwork in the palliative care sector.

Three new awards were introduced in 2017 in order to recognise and support palliative care professionals in the aged care setting, palliative care volunteers and professionals working in rural and remote areas.

Individual award winners received $2000 to go towards personal professional development whilst organisational / team award winners received $4000 to go towards professional development for their entire team.

Award Winners – Individual

- **Emerging Leader** – Mrs Anna Holliday, Project Manager at Live Tasmania, Hobart TAS
- **Emerging Researcher** – Dr Diana Ferreira, Medical Doctor at Flinders University, Adelaide SA
- **Excellence in Palliative Care – Rural and Remote** – Ms Lesley Forrester, Regional Palliative Care Coordinator at Great Southern Regional Specialist Palliative Care Service, Albany WA
- **Excellence in Palliative Care in an Aged Care Setting** – Mr Peter Jenkin, Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner: Aged Care at Resthaven Incorporated, Adelaide SA
- **Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer** – Mr Roger Lush, Volunteer at Southern Adelaide Palliative Services, Adelaide SA

Award Winners – Organisational / Team

- **Outstanding Teamwork** – Quality of Care Collaborative Australia (QuoCCA) Education Team at the Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service, Brisbane QLD
- **Innovation in Palliative Care** – Dying to Learn Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Care Search at Flinders University, Adelaide SA

Media contact: Grace Keyworth – 0422 040 576
grace@palliativecare.org.au
palliativecare.org.au

His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, Patron
PCA CEO Liz Callaghan says that the awards provided winners with development opportunities that they otherwise may have missed out on.

“These awards offer these talented individuals and teams an even stronger platform and capability to continue their invaluable care and careers in palliative care,” said Ms Callaghan.

“Palliative care workers in rural and remote areas don’t have access to the resources available in major settings, it’s vital to support them in the work they are doing.

“PCA aims to ensure that everyone accessing palliative care gets the support they need, and these awards put us a step closer to achieving that goal.”

The five individual awards recognised:

- Emerging Leader – recognises an up and coming leader for significant contributions to palliative care early in their working or academic life.
- Emerging Researcher - recognises outstanding contribution to palliative care by a researcher in the first five years of their research career.
- Excellence in Palliative Care – Rural and Remote - recognises a person who has made significant contributions to palliative care in a rural and remote area.
- Excellence in Palliative Care in an Aged Care Setting - recognises a person who has displayed excellence in care in an aged care setting.
- Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer - recognises the exceptional contribution of a volunteer in improving the experience of a patient/s with Palliative Care needs or their family.

The two organisational / team awards recognised:

- Outstanding Teamwork Award - recognises inspirational teamwork and a team who has the ability to work across divisions, departments or organisations towards a common vision.
- Innovation in Palliative Care - recognises an organisation that has initiated an innovative practice, project or service that enhances the delivery of palliative care.